

ADDRESS

OF

THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

TO THE

Auxiliary Societies,

AND

THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.

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WASHINGTON;

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July, 1820.

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## ADDRESSES.

*To the Auxiliary Colonization Societies and the People of the United States :*

The Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society have received, by the return of the Elizabeth from Africa, letters from their agent and the people who went out in that vessel, containing most gratifying and interesting intelligence of their arrival and reception in that country.

They are greatly encouraged by these communications to persevere in their object. Success now seems no longer doubtful. The soil, climate, and productions of the country will afford a healthy and comfortable subsistence; the favourable disposition of the natives, and the previous settlement, at Sherbro, of a number of free coloured people under Mr. Kizell, give us every reason to hope for the security of the establishment; and the well-directed and zealous efforts of our government to carry into execution, the law for the suppression of the slave-trade, ensure every necessary protection.

The period is now arriving when the Society purpose to send out one or more vessels; to carry to the settlement a number of the free people of colour of this country; a considerable number of whom are anxiously waiting to avail themselves of such an opportunity. Already the number of applicants exceeds, considerably, the accommodations of a single ship; and frequent and pressing applications are still continually occurring.

As most of these persons must not only be supported during their voyage, but will require, for a time, many articles to contribute to the comfort of the settlement, a considerable and immediate supply of funds will be necessary.

The friends of the Society, in many places, have already given liberally; but our expenditures have been necessarily great. The magnitude of the object and the evident prospect of success, will, we hope, induce its friends every where, to come forward at this important juncture, and render that prompt and effectual aid which the emergency demands.

When we present to the view of the American public the establishment of free coloured people on the land of their forefathers, transported thither from this, and settled and supported by the benevolence of our citizens, we trust we cannot appeal in vain for the continuance of their liberality. The progress of such a work cannot fail to excite an increasing interest. The patriot will hail it as promising the highest blessings he can hope for his country, and the heart of the philanthropist will exult at the wide prospect of happiness it presents; while the christian, with the superadded impulse of diffusing among all around him the light and the hope in which he glories, will thank God that he is permitted to be a co-worker in such a cause.

The letters subjoined, will show the various articles that are wanted for the settlers; and donations in such goods will be thankfully accepted from those who may not have it in their power to give money on this occasion.

The different Auxiliary Societies throughout the United States, are respectfully solicited to collect and send on their supplies of money to Richard Smith, Esq. Treasurer of this Society, at the Branch Bank, Washington, and to hold the donations they may receive in goods and other articles, until it is ascertained from what port the vessel will sail.

We beg leave to conclude by particularly addressing ourselves to the Rev. Clergy of the United States of all religious denominations, from whose interest and influence we cannot help expecting, with confidence, considerable assistance.

We would respectfully request them to consider, in all its bearings, the object we present to them, and its probable consequences; to give to their respective congregations, information on this subject, and to solicit and collect for the Society, whatever their means may enable them to give. A ready and important addition to our funds, we have no doubt, might thus be made, perhaps with more ease than in any other way. A small sum from each congregation in the United States would enable us to redouble our exertions. Whatever they may thus collect, they will please to remit as above directed.

By order of the Managers,  
E. B. Caldwell, Cor. Sec.

River Sherbro, March 31, 1820.

SIR,

Having received my appointment as first agent of the Colonization Society, to reside on the coast of Africa, on the seventeenth of January, 1820, I immediately made the requisite preparations, and proceeded to New-York, where I received instructions to appropriate the funds in that place, (except one thousand dollars remitted from the city of Washington,) to "the providing of the necessary presents to the natives, and for making preparations for the comfortable establishment and subsistence of the first colonists who shall need the aid of the Society." They amounted to fourteen hundred and forty-eight dollars and fifty cents, which I endeavoured to dispose of to the best advantage that the shortness of the time would admit of, in procuring articles which, according to the best information I could obtain, were the most suitable for the purpose, and which, together with the goods received by donations, were put on board the ship Elizabeth, captain Sebor, bound to the coast of Africa, in which I embarked on the sixth of February in the character of physician. After a passage of thirty days we arrived at Sierra Leone. Governor M'Carty was absent in the country, but returned on the Saturday evening following; and, considering the danger of making any delay, we determined to make our communications on the following day, when, with the letter of the Hon. B. Washington, I despatched the ensuing letters to his excellency:

"SIR—Having arrived as officiating physician on board the ship Elizabeth, as stated in the communication of the Rev. Samuel Bacon, Principal Agent of the United States for providing for liberated Africans, I beg leave to inform your excellency, that I am authorized by the Colonization Society to select and purchase a suitable site on the western coast of Africa, on which to colonize those free people of colour of the United States, who may be desirous of settling there; and to take charge of the government of the colony when established. A contract having been entered into by the Princes, Headmen, &c. of Sherbro, to furnish land for the proposed colony, if it meet with the views of the Society to establish it there, I am instructed in the first instance to direct my attention to that country, and if it should not answer their expectations, to the most eligible situation that can be procured on the coast. The United States having appointed agents to provide an establishment for liberated Africans, the Society conceive it will be mutually advantageous, to fix upon the same local position; and that concert between the agents of both parties, will contribute to the advancement of their several objects. I have presumed to make this statement to your excellency that my future proceedings may be properly apprehended by the officers of the government of Sierra Leone,

where friendship and co-operation, in meliorating the unhappy condition of the much injured Africans, we ardently desire to obtain; and which, from the friendly and polite attention, shown to the former agents of the Society, we have every reason to expect. It is believed that a colony at Sherbro, will be of material advantage to that at Sierra Leone; the proposed colony being intended as far as possible to be an agricultural establishment, will, it is believed, considerably enhance the commercial interests of the colony at Sierra Leone; and that many advantages will arise from the mutual succour and support, which it will be in their power to render each other."

To develop as candidly as possible the views of the Society, the second letter was as follows:

"**SIR**—Should the colony, proposed to be established by the Colonization Society, be located in the neighbourhood of Sierra Leone, I beg leave to propose, with a view to a mutual good understanding, that neither colony shall employ, or grant lands or other privileges, to the citizens of the other, without the approbation of their respective governments: An arrangement of this kind will effectually prevent any unpleasant interference with the interests of each other."

The foregoing letter was written with some hesitation, fearing lest I should encroach on the Society; yet it was with the approbation of Mr. Bacon, and a conviction that it was relinquishing nothing which the constitution of the Society called for. These communications were received respectfully by his excellency, who invited us to dine with him the next day, when he received us with the utmost politeness, and tendered his services. Being chagrined and worn out with unavoidable delays, Mr. Bacon purchased a small armed schooner for the purpose of unlading the ship, and we sailed for Sherbro on the seventeenth of March. Mr. Bankson had previously been sent to confer with Mr. Kizell, who has resided in the Sherbro country almost constantly, since Messrs. Burgess and Mills left the coast; we met him on the passage, and he informed us that Mr. Kizell had agreed to furnish us with house-room and storage, until we could find other accommodations. We anchored the next day in the river Sherbro, twenty-five miles from Camper (the name of Mr. Kizell's place,) where we landed our goods as soon as possible. We have not yet held a palaver with the chiefs, but I have no doubt of their cheerfully granting us land, although there is a trifling alarm among them owing to false impressions, that we are the enemies of Mr. Kizell, &c. Mr. Kizell is staunch as a rock in our favour; he had not received any information concerning the Society, since the departure of Messrs. Burgess and Mills: he left Sierra Leone soon after their departure, and went down to Sherbro, where he built a little town, and cleared a small spot of ground for our reception. On our arrival he had begun to despair of ever seeing us. Land may be procured on

the coast; and I feel resolved (if it be the will of the Society,) whatever may occur, not to leave the coast until a satisfactory station is procured. It is not now in my power to render any definite information concerning the face of the country, not having hitherto been able to make other than superficial observations and not desiring to give a hasty opinion; but the land appears very fertile, it produces fruit of all kinds in the greatest abundance, and no doubt will produce almost every thing that can satisfy or gratify the real or artificial wants of man, with half the labour that they can be produced in the United States. This is my opinion from the little observation which I have had an opportunity of making, and this is the least productive season of the year. I have been agreeably disappointed in the temperature of the climate; instead of the burning sands of Africa, I have found the land clothed with the most exuberant vegetation; and instead of the pestiferous Sirocco, pleasant and refreshing breezes: I have not observed the thermometer higher than eighty-five of Farenheit. The water at Campelar (which is the only place in Sherbro at which I have had an opportunity of trying it) is not good; it is by no means unwholesome, but is highly impregnated with iron, and a very small portion of sulphur; but I understand there is fine water at the situation we have in view for the colony. The river Sherbro in which we now lie, I am satisfied is navigable for a ship of at least four hundred tons as far as the Bagroo: further I have not had an opportunity of ascertaining, but have been informed that there is bold water up that river as far as the Meno; but the pilots here appear to have but very little knowledge of the channel, and if they chance to run aground immediately attribute it to the shifting of the banks. The most proper articles of trade in this place, are tobacco (which ought to be of the longest leaves that can be procured, even though it should cost treble the sum that short leaved can be procured for,) pipes, rum, or whiskey of the most common kind, blue bastas, gun-powder, trade-guns, assorted knives, Dutch looking-glasses, gilt jewelry, gaudy handkerchiefs, iron pots, showy beads, common chairs, painted with high colours and ornamented in the most gaudy manner, together with toys of various kinds. These articles are all highly necessary, and will command any thing in Africa. I am aware that it was not the intention of the Society to use rum; but it is absolutely necessary until we obtain proper footing in the country; the natives will do nothing without it, and the withholding it might entirely cut off the future usefulness of the Society. Mr. Kizell made the following observations on this subject, requesting me to transmit them to the Society—“That a child could not be weaned from the breast of its mother immediately—and the poor natives of Africa cannot be torn at once from the use of ardent spirits, but must be gradually weaned.” This he thinks is the only effectual method of conquering that propensity; he also thinks that the best method of preserving their attachment will be to keep a small vessel

the same without any certificate signed by some person duly appointed for the purpose. That no person should be admitted into the colony without a certificate signed by some person duly appointed for the purpose. That an epitome of the regulations should be printed and distributed, and presented to every settler, that he may have the means of consulting or disapproving. That it will be expedient to provide for every individual a proper allowance of the public provisions, and that they be served out with the utmost regularity, but to allow no luxury of any kind whatever, either to the colonists or agents, as they will be a great expense, are useless, and I am convinced are a continual source of murmurs and discontent. That no more white men than are absolutely necessary to transact the business of the Society should be admitted into the colony. That two agents will be amply sufficient to transact that business at present. That no man will be useful as an agent here, except he possess sterling talents, extensive and versatile knowledge, and a willingness to sacrifice every thing to the welfare of the colony. That the agents ought to be governed by strict regulations, and instructions as definite as possible, so as not to leave too much to their own discretion, and yet not to curtail them in their operation. That the Society should keep the government of the colony strictly in their own hands, so that he be thoroughly organized. And, until that be the case, not to suffer any regulations to be passed by the agents or colonists which are not necessary on account of localities. Finally, that a code of laws and regulations shall be forwarded as soon as possible. And, if these measures are pursued, I feel sanguine of success.

We found it necessary on our arrival here to send to Sierra Leone to purchase rum, tobacco, and trade-guns. Owing to our accounts being considerably embarrassed, and Mr. Bacon not having come to any arrangement with me, it is impossible at present to render an account of the manner in which I appropriated the funds entrusted to my charge, but it will be done by the next opportunity. I am sensible that I ought to have made a report be-



have leaving New-Work, but, having deferred it until the day of our departure, I was prevented by indisposition. I have endeavored in the foregoing lines, to throw together without any kind of system, such information as I conceived would be most acceptable to the Society and in our present situation is the best that I can render. We have many difficulties before us, but they, comparatively speaking, vanish into nothing; let nothing deter the Society from persevering in a vigorous pursuit of their object, the Lord will prosper it, and may he direct you.

Yours, respectfully,  
SAMUEL A. CROZER.

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Campelar, Sherbro Island, 22d March, 1839.

HON. BUSHRON WASHINGTON,

SIR—I desire to return you and the Board of Managers of the Colonization Society, my grateful thanks for the confidence you and they repose in me; I have received your letter and people. I thank you for the first and will take care of the last. Africa is wide and long—Africa is fertile and healthy—Africa is afflicted—“Rachel mourneth for her children,” and “will not be comforted till they come home.” Send more, and more, and more. I wish you could see our sons and daughters growing up by our sides, tall, and healthy, and strong; you would say, “surely it is a goodly land.” You must not slack your hand. You must strive to send my brethren home. You must not mind the talk of those coloured people in your own country who oppose you. They are ignorant of our climate, and soil, and fruit, and cattle. It may be, they are wicked too, some of them, and do not wish their “Zion well.” You must not listen to the words of those white persons who try to stop free people of colour from coming over. They are blind, sometimes, perhaps. You cannot send too many. Let them come and sit down in our valleys, and on our hills, and near our rivers, and all the country will soon break forth into a song. The Sherbro country is full of meat, and fish, and bread, and oil, and honey. Send us people to eat them.

I thank you for the present. It is very useful and very beautiful. The people will stop at Campelar till the palaver is over, and land bought and cleared, and houses built. It may be the women and children will stay till the rains are over. This place is healthy. A good sea-breeze always cools us, night and day. God bless you. I can say all in one word—God bids you “colonize.” I know it is God’s will. God has sent me here and set me down to make a place for my brethren. I say, God has taken up the matter, and you must go on, my father, and work with Him in this great work. Farewell, fear not: I say, God will stand at your back and help you.

and see that no ill comes in your way. He bids you  
 "farewell; I say, 'colerate.'"  
 Your friend,  
 JOHN KIRKELL.

The following are Extracts from a very Private Letter.

We all unite in morning and evening prayer in church, and have  
 happy sessions. We must build a church, as the one we have is too  
 small. It is delightful to witness the desire of these natives to learn.  
 We shall have glorious labour here. As we sit in church, some-  
 times, every admirable one on the male side is a naked man or boy.  
 They cannot speak or understand English, but always say "Amen,"  
 and never fail to sing the tune with us.

Well, we are in Africa, the gloomy veil that intercepts your view  
 from us has been passed by us, and we look back and wonder we  
 ever thought it so difficult and dangerous an enterprise. Mr.  
 Kirkell begs you not to spare or slacken your hand. It is fixed that  
 Africa must be colonized, and that colonizing will be the only  
 means to stop the slave-trade. Go on, I say, on the authority of  
 Mr. Kirkell: there is a mild climate, a good soil, and perfect secu-  
 rity for settlers, notwithstanding the slave-trade. I say perfect  
 security: on these heads I shall ere long hope to speak from expe-  
 rience and observation.

I advise, in case of vessels coming hereafter to this place, that  
 all larger vessels, viz. such as draw more than seven feet water to  
 come to an anchor about six or seven miles from the Plantains to-  
 wards the Sherbro. Anchorage is good, and any vessels may come  
 down thus far. A pilot will be needed, which can be had by com-  
 ing to anchor off Cape Sierra Leone, and sending up to Freetown;  
 or, by sending some small craft down to Campelar. The former is  
 most advisable. Having anchored at the distance of six miles from  
 the Plantains, send your jolly boat down shore past Jenkins to  
 Campelar, and the small craft will go up. I would not advise now,  
 that vessels should pass the bar off the Mendo Trees, as the Eliza-  
 beth did. It is only three and a half fathoms and full of shoals.  
 Stay further up towards the Plantains. If you come with a small  
 vessel your pilot can bring you down to Campelar. The above  
 advice is predicated on the existing state of things; but I am clearly  
 of opinion a frigate may come to Campelar. It will be proper to  
 sound, and find, and buoy the channel. There is always a fair  
 northwester to come down. The only way to get back is by taking  
 advantage of the tides, a chance east wind, or beating back; which  
 latter cannot be safe till your channel is well-known and marked.  
 Grant, Davies, father and son, and Anderson are good pilots. We

people seem to have Sherbro Sound explored, and all the islands  
sounded.

The water at Campelar is chalybeate, highly so. It is not  
but sea-water, as it rises and falls with the tide, passing through  
bed of iron ore and sand banks. It is black and disagreeable; but  
the healthiness of this spot is attributed to the sea-air, and the quality  
of the water.

There is great room for missionaries here—every town ought to  
have one. Missionaries should all know something of medicine,  
and have a chest; they should have farming utensils, and know how  
to use them, also mechanical instruments. To prevent idleness, and  
cultivate are to be united. Send us help—let the current of mis-  
sionary zeal be turned towards this country. God forbid Africa  
should be placed behind India by America.

Mr. Kizell gives us a hearty reception. He has a church lighted  
with two lamps, has a pulpit, bible, and hymn book for it. Preached  
himself once a week, and had prayers morning and evening in it  
before we came. He is a truly pious man—very liberal. Only  
two deaths have taken place in his town since he has had it settled,  
and one of them by lightning. It has a constant sea-breeze. His  
people are all healthy and happy. I never was healthier—never  
was happier. The Lord landed with us. It was a season of joy.  
Mr. Kizell wept with joy. It would rejoice your soul to be in Cam-  
pelar church. Natives and Americans all joining together in prais-  
ing God. It was worth a voyage across the ocean to see.

We have had several of the subordinate chiefs—such as Bongo's  
brother, Sherbro's nephew, old William Ado's son, and others to  
see us. They all said they hear the people are come, and they  
came down to see if it was true.

When I speak of naked people, it is always to be understood that  
they wear something about their loins: the women and men sit on  
opposite sides in church.

This island is fertile, its shores, washed by the sea and cooled by  
its waves, are healthy. We shall go up to the Bagrao this fall to  
lay out a town, if the kings grant us a place.



An act, in addition to the act prohibiting the slave-trade, &c.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized, whenever he shall deem it expedient, to cause any of the armed vessels of the United States to be employed to cruise on any of the coasts of the United States or territories thereof, or of the coast of Africa, or elsewhere; where he may judge attempts may be made to carry on the slave-trade by citizens or residents of the United States, in contravention of the acts of Congress prohibiting the same; and to instruct and direct the commanders of all armed vessels of the United States to seize, take, and bring into any port of the United States, all ships or vessels of the United States, whether warranted, which may have taken on board, or which may be intended for the purpose of taking on board, or transporting, or may have transported any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, in violation of any of the provisions of the act, entitled "An act in addition to an act to prohibit the importation of slaves into any port or place within the jurisdiction of the United States from and after the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eight, and to repeal certain parts of the same," or of any other act or acts prohibiting the traffick in slaves, to be proceeded against according to law. And the proceeds of all ships and vessels, their tackle, apparel, and furniture, and the goods and effects on board of them which shall be so seized, prosecuted, and condemned, shall be divided equally between the United States and the officers and men who shall seize, take, or bring the same into port for condemnation, whether such seizure be made by an armed vessel of the United States or revenue cutter thereof. And the same shall be distributed in like manner as is provided by law for the distribution of prizes taken from an enemy. *Provided*, That the officers and men to be entitled to one half of the proceeds aforesaid shall safe keep every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, found on board any ship or vessel so seized, taken, or brought into port for condemnation, and shall deliver every such negro, mulatto, or person of colour, to the marshal of the district in which they are brought, if into a port of the United States, or, if elsewhere, to such person or persons as shall be lawfully appointed by the President of the United States in the manner hereinafter directed, transmitting to the President of the United States, as soon as may be after such delivery, a descriptive list of such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour, that he may give directions for the disposal of them. *And provided further*, That the commanders of such commissioned vessels do cause to be apprehended and taken into custody, every person found on board of such vessel so seized and taken, being of the officers or crew thereof, and him or them convey, as soon as con-

veniently may be, to the civil authority of the United States, to be proceeded against in due course of law in some of the districts thereof.

**SECT. 2.** *And be it further enacted,* That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to make such regulations and arrangements as he may deem expedient for the safe-keeping, support, and removal beyond the limits of the United States, of all such negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour, as may be so delivered and brought within their jurisdiction; and to appoint a proper person or persons, residing upon the coast of Africa, as agent or agents for receiving the negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour delivered from on board vessels seized in the prosecution of the slave trade by commanders of the United States' armed vessels.

**SECT. 3.** *And be it further enacted,* That a bounty of twenty-five dollars be paid to the officers and crews of the commissioned vessels of the United States, or revenue cutters, for each and every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, who shall have been as hereinbefore provided, delivered to the marshal or agent duly appointed to receive them. And the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, to such officers and crews or their agent, the aforesaid bounty, for each person delivered as aforesaid.

**SECT. 4.** *And be it further enacted,* That when any citizen or other person shall lodge information with the attorney for the district of any state or territory, as the case may be, that any negro, mulatto, or person of colour, has been imported therein, contrary to the provisions of the acts in such case made and provided, it shall be the duty of the said attorney forthwith to commence a prosecution by information, and process shall issue against the person charged with holding such negro, negroes, mulatto, mulattoes, person or persons of colour, so alleged to be imported contrary to the provisions of the acts aforesaid. And if, upon the return of the process executed, it shall be ascertained, by the verdict of a jury, that such negro, negroes, mulatto, mulattoes, person or persons of colour, have been brought in contrary to the true intent and meaning of the acts in such cases made and provided, then the court shall direct the marshal of the said district to take the said negroes and mulattoes or persons of colour, into his custody for safe-keeping; subject to the orders of the President of the United States; and the informer or informers who shall have lodged the information, shall be entitled to receive, over and above the portion of the penalties accruing to him or them by the provisions of the acts in such case made and provided, a bounty of fifty dollars for each and every negro, mulatto, or person of colour, who shall have been delivered into the custody of the marshal; and the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and required to pay, or cause to be paid, the aforesaid bounty, upon the certificate of the clerk

of the court for the District where the prosecution may have been had, with the seal of a Court thereto annexed, stating the number of negroes, mulattoes, or persons of colour so delivered.

SECT. 5. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be a crime, if the commander of any armed vessel of the United States, whenever he shall make any capture under the provisions of this act, to bring the vessel and her cargo for adjudication into some of the ports of the state or territory to which such vessel so captured shall belong, if he can ascertain the crime; if not, then to be sent into any convenient port of the United States.

SECT. 6. *And be it further enacted*, That all such acts or parts of acts as may be repugnant to the provisions of this act, shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECT. 7. *And be it further enacted*, That a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to carry this law into effect.

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States.

The President and Board of Managers of the American Colonization Society, respectfully represent that, being about to commence the execution of the object to which their views have been long directed, they deem it proper and necessary to address themselves to the legislative council of their country. They trust that this object will be considered, in itself, of great national importance, will be found inseparably connected with another, vitally affecting the honour and interest of this nation, and leading, in its consequences, to the most desirable results.

Believing that examination and reflection will show that such are its connexions and tendency, they are encouraged to present themselves and their cause, where they know that a public measure, having these advantages, cannot fail to receive all the countenance and aid it may require.

The last census shows the number of free people of colour of the United States, and their rapid increase. Supposing them to increase in the same ratio, it will appear how large a proportion of our population will, in the course of even a few years, consist of persons of that description.

No argument is necessary to show that this is very far indeed from constituting an increase of our physical strength; nor can there be a population, in any country, neutral as to its effects upon society. The least observation shows that this description of persons are not, and cannot be, either useful or happy among us; and many considerations, which need not be mentioned, prove, beyond dispute, that it is best, for all the parties interested, that there should be a separation; that those who are now free, and those who may become so hereafter, should be provided with the means of attaining to a state of respectability and happiness, which, it is certain, they have never yet reached, and; therefore, can never be likely to reach in this country.

Several of the states, deeply interested in this subject, have already applied to the general government; and, concurring in the views of your memorialists, both from considerations of justice towards themselves and humanity to the coloured people, have expressed, to the general government, their desire that a country should be procured for them, in the land of their forefathers, to which such of them, as should avail themselves of the opportunity, might be removed. It has been the one single object of the Society, which your memorialists represent, to effect this end. They have made the most cautious and particular inquiries, as to the practicability of such a plan and its prospects of success, both in this country and in Africa, and they are warranted in declaring, that there are no difficulties which they do not confidently expect will be easily overcome by a moderate exertion of discretion and perseverance.

In this country, and in almost every part of it, they have found a zealous and decided approbation expressed, both in words and deeds, by a vast majority of all classes of our citizens; and this sentiment is continually increasing as the measure becomes more the subject of discussion and reflection. Its importance all admit; and its practicability, though doubted by many at first, is daily less questioned.

The two last reports of the Society, to which your memorialists beg leave to refer, show the success of their mission to Africa, and the result of their inquiries upon that continent. From those it is manifest that a situation can be readily obtained, favourable to commerce and agriculture, in a healthy and fertile country, and that the natives are well disposed to give every encouragement to the establishment of such a settlement among them. Thus, it appears, that an object of great national concern, already expressly desired by some of the states, and truly desirable to all, receiving, also, the approbation of those upon whom it is more immediately to operate, is brought within our reach.

But this subject derives, perhaps, its chief interest from its connection with a measure which has, already, to the honour of our country, occupied the deliberations of the Congress of the United States.

Your memorialists refer, with pleasure, to the act, passed at the last session of Congress, supplementary to the act formerly passed for the suppression of the slave-trade. The means afforded, by the provisions of that act, for the accomplishment of its object, are certainly great; but the total extirpation of this disgraceful trade, cannot, perhaps, be expected from any measures which rely, alone, upon the employment of a maritime force, however considerable.

The profits attending it are so extraordinary, that the cupidity of the unprincipled will still be tempted to continue it, as long as there is any chance of escaping the vigilance of the cruisers engaged against them. From the best information your memorialists have been enabled to obtain, of the nature, causes, and course of this trade, and of the present situation of the coast of Africa, and the habits and dispositions of the natives, they are well assured that the suppression of the African slave-trade, and the civilization of the natives, are measures of indispensable connection.

Such an opinion has been avowed, many years ago, by those best acquainted with this subject, and experience has abundantly confirmed it.



The documents and papers which your memorialists had heretofore the honour of presenting to Congress, and those contained in the late reports of the Society, prove this position.

Since the establishment of the English settlement at Sierra Leone, the slave trade has been rapidly ceasing upon that part of the coast.

Not only the kingdoms in its immediate neighbourhood, but those upon the Sherbro and Bagroo rivers, and others with whom the people of that settlement have opened a communication, have been prevailed upon to abandon it, and are turning their attention to the ordinary and innocent pursuits of civilized nations.

That the same consequences will result from similar settlements, cannot be doubted. When the natives there see that the European commodities, for which they have been accustomed to exchange their fellow-beings, until vast and fertile regions have become almost depopulated, can be more easily, and safely obtained by other pursuits, it is believed that they will hesitate to part by the experience. Nor will the advantages of civilization be soon exhibited. That religion, whose mandate is "peace on earth and good will towards men," will "do its errand," will deliver them from the bondage of their miserable superstitions, and display the same triumphs which it is exhibiting in every land.

That such points of settlement would diffuse their light around the coast, and gradually dispel the darkness which has so long enshrouded that continent, would be a reasonable hope, and would justify the attempt, even if experience had not ascertained its success. Although, therefore, much may be effected by the vigilant operations of a well disposed naval force, it is to be feared that much will always remain to be done, until some degree of civilization is attained by the inhabitants of the coast of Africa. The present measures, therefore, for the suppression of the slave trade, if unconnected with others for the improvement of the natives, must be long continued, and the effects produced by them will be partial, tedious, and uncertain; and the least relaxation of this vigilance will revive it.

But those measures, and all others involving expense and labour, may be withdrawn, as soon as these establishments upon the coast become strong enough to participate in the contest against avarice and inhumanity, and shall obtain from their evident advantages over the natives, a proper influence among them. And here your memorialists beg leave, respectfully, to suggest their fears that many of the profligate adventurers in this trade will evade the search of our cruisers by their artful contrivances in disguising their national character. We have reason to believe that the slave ships of other nations assume the flag and character of Americans, to evade the search of British cruisers. Is it not, therefore, to be expected that the act lately passed will often be defeated by American slave ships assuming a foreign flag and character? A careful consideration of this subject has convinced us that all our efforts will be insufficient to accomplish their purposes, unless some friendly arrangement can be made among the maritime powers of the world, which shall leave no shelter to those who deserve to be considered as the common enemies of mankind.

Whether a permission, under any modification, to certain specified ships, or in certain instances, to search and seize slave-ships, under our flag, such as Great Britain, and other European powers have mutually given to each other, can be properly granted by our government, we essentially leave to the wisdom and justice of Congress to determine. Your memorialists will only express their hope and belief, that your deliberations upon this interesting subject will enable you to discern a way, without any compromise of our national honour, by which our country may be placed among the foremost and most efficient advocates of the rights of humanity. But your memorialists humbly consider, that the colonization of Africa offers the most powerful and indispensable auxiliary to the system already adopted, for the extermination of a trade, which is now existing in every country, that just indignation which has been long felt, and expressed in this

no way, has it so much in its power to furnish proper settlers for such establishments, as this; we believe has to drop an interest in thus disposing of them. By the law passed at the last session, and before referred to, the captives who may be taken by our cruisers, from the slave ships, are to be taken to Africa, and delivered to the custody of agents appointed by the President. There will then be a settlement of captured negroes upon the coast, in consequence of the measures already adopted. And it is evidently most important, if not necessary to such a settlement, that the civilized people of colour, of this country, whose industry, enterprise, and knowledge of agriculture, and the arts, would render them most useful settlers, should be connected with such an establishment.

When, therefore, the object of the Colonization Society is viewed, in connection with that entire suppression of the slave trade, which your memorialists trust it is resolved shall be effected, its importance becomes obvious and extreme. The beneficial consequences resulting from success in such a measure, it is impossible to calculate. To the general cause of humanity, it will afford the most rich and noble contribution, and for the nation that regards that cause, that employs its power in its behalf, it cannot fail to procure a proportionate reward. It is by such a course that a nation ensures to itself the protection and favour of the Governor of the world. Nor are there wanting views and considerations, arising from our peculiar political institutions, which would justify the sure expectation of the most signal blessings to ourselves from the successful execution of such an enterprise. If one of these consequences shall be the greatest, and almost imperceptible, removal of a national evil, which all unite in denouncing, and for which, with the most intense, but hitherto hopeless anxiety, the patriots and statesmen of our country have laboured to discover a remedy, who can deny, that, of all the blessings we may be permitted to bequeath to our descendants, this will receive the richest tribute of their thanks and veneration?

Your memorialists cannot believe that such an evil, universally acknowledged and deprecated, has been immovably fixed upon us. Some way will always be opened by Providence, by which a people, desirous of acting justly and benevolently, may be led to the attainment of a meritorious object. And they believe, that of all the plans, which the most sagacious and discerning of our patriots have suggested, for effec-

ing what they have so greatly desired, the colonization of Africa, in the manner proposed, presents the fairest prospect of success. But if it be admitted to be ever so doubtful, whether this happy result shall be the reward of our exertions, yet if great and certain benefits immediately attend them, why may not others, still greater, follow them?

In a work evidently progressive, who shall assign limits to the good that zeal and perseverance shall be permitted to accomplish? Your memorialists beg leave to state, that, having expended considerable funds in prosecuting their inquiries and making preparations, they are now a boat to send out a colony, and complete the purchase, already stipulated with the native kings and chiefs of Sherbro, of a suitable territory for their establishment. The number they are now enabled to transport and provide for, is but a small proportion of the people of colour who have expressed their desire to go. And without a larger and more sudden increase of their funds than can be expected from the voluntary contributions of individuals, their progress must be slow and uncertain. They have always flattered themselves with the hope, that when it was seen they had surmounted the difficulties of preparation, and shown that means applied to the execution of their design, would lead directly and evidently to its accomplishment, they would be enabled to obtain for it the national countenance and assistance. To this point they have arrived; and they therefore respectfully request, that this interesting subject may receive the consideration of your honourable body, and that the Executive Department may be authorized, in pecuniary and other aid, in such way as may meet your approbation, to extend to this object such as it may be thought to require and deserve.

Your memorialists farther request, that the subscribers to the American Colonization Society may be incorporated, by act of Congress, to enable them to act with more efficiency, in carrying on the great and important objects of the Society, and to enable them, with more economy, to manage the benevolent contributions entrusted to their care.

JOHN MASON,  
W. JONES,  
E. B. CALDWELL, } Committee.  
F. S. KEY.

*Report of the Committee to whom was referred, at the commencement of the present session of Congress, on much of the President's Message as relates to the Slave Trade, accompanied with a bill to incorporate the American Society for colonizing the free people of colour.*

The committee on the Slave Trade, to whom was referred the memorial of the President and Board of Managers of the American Society for colonizing the free people of colour of the United States, have, according to order, had under consideration the several subjects therein embraced, and Report:—

That the American Society was instituted in the city of Washington, on the 28th of December, 1816, for the benevolent purpose of affording to the free people of colour of the United States the means of establishing one or more independent colonies on the western coast of Africa. After ascertaining, by a mission to that



of the people of colour of the United States. Stimulated by the remonstrances of numerous societies in every part of the United States, and the approving voice of the legislative power of several states, without inquiring into any other considerations of the memorialists, your committee do not think it derogating of the countenance and support of the general government. The extent to which force shall be applied is a question not so easily determined.

The memorialists do not ask the government to assume the jurisdiction of the territory, or to become, in any degree, whatever, responsible for the future safety or tranquillity of the contemplated colony. They have prudently thought that its establishment, peace and security would be most effectually guaranteed by an appeal, first, to the philosophy of the civilized world; and to that sentiment of retributive justice, with which all christendom is at present animated towards a much injured continent.

Of the constitutional power of the general government to grant the limited aid contemplated by the accompanying bills and resolutions, your committee presume there can exist no shadow of doubt; and they leave it to a period of greater national prosperity to determine, how far the authority of Congress, the resources of the National Government, and the welfare and happiness of the United States, will warrant, or require its extension.

Your committee are solemnly enjoined by the peculiar object of their trust, and invited by the suggestions of the memorialists, to inquire into the defects of the existing laws against the African slave trade. So long as it is in the power of the United States to provide additional restraints upon this odious traffick, they cannot be withheld, consistently with the justice and honour of the nation.

Congress have heretofore marked, with decided reprobation, the authors and abettors of this iniquitous commerce, in every form which it assumes; from the inception of its unrighteous purpose in America, through all the subsequent stages of its progress, to its final consummation; the outward voyage, the cruel seizure, and forcible abduction of the unfortunate African from his native home, and the fraudulent transfer of the property thus acquired. It may, however, be questioned, if a proper discrimination of their relative guilt, has entered into the measure of punishment annexed to these criminal acts.

Your committee cannot perceive wherein the offense of kidnapping an unoffending inhabitant of a foreign country; of chaining him down for a series of days, weeks, and months, amidst the dying and the dead, to the pestilential hold of a slave-ship: of consigning him, if he chance to live out the voyage, to perpetual slavery, in a remote and unknown land, differs in malignity from piracy, or why a milder punishment should follow the one, than the other crime.

the human traffic, the perpetration of the crime, the sufferings of the victims, the danger which waits upon the voyage, however criminal in itself, and yet more in its tendency to encourage this abominable traffic, yields in atrocity to the violent seizure of his person, his sudden and unprepared separation from his family, his kindred, his friends, and his country, followed by all the horrors of the middle passage. Are there not entailed in this offence all that is most iniquitous in theft, most daring in robbery, and cruel in murder? Its consequences to the victim, if he survives; to the country which receives him; and to that from which he is torn, are alike disastrous. If the internal wars of Africa, and their desolating effect may be imputed to the slave trade, and that the greater part of them must, cannot now be questioned, this crime, considered in its remote, as well as its proximate consequences, is the very darkest in the whole catalogue of human iniquities; and its authors should be considered as *hostes humani generis*.

In proposing to the House of Representatives, to make such part of this offence as occurs upon the ocean, piracy, your committee are animated, not by the desire of manifesting to the world the horror with which it is viewed by the American people; but, by the confident expectation of promoting, by this example, its more certain punishment by all nations, and its absolute and final extinction.

May it not be believed, that when the whole civilized world shall have denounced the slave trade as piracy, it will become as infrequent as any other species of that offence against the law of nations? Is it unreasonable to suppose, that negotiation will, with greater facility, introduce into that law such a provision as is here proposed, when it shall have been already incorporated in the separate code of each state?

The maritime powers of the christian world have, at length, concurred in pronouncing sentence of condemnation against the traffick. The United States having led the way in forming this decree, owe it to themselves, not to follow the rest of mankind in promoting its vigorous execution.

If it should be objected, that the legislation of Congress would be partial, and its benefit, for a time at least local, it may be replied, that the constitutional power of the government has already been exercised in defining the crime of piracy, in accordance with similar analogies, to that which the committee have sought to trace between this general offence against the peace of nations, and the slave trade.

In many of the foreign treaties, as well as in the laws of the United States, examples, are to be found, of piracies, which are not cognizable, as such, by the tribunals of all nations. Such is the unavoidable consequence of any exercise of the authority of Congress, to define and punish this crime. The definition and the punishment can bind the United States alone.

1. *Explain the role of the following in the development of the American West:*  
 a. *Frontier*  
 b. *Homestead Act*  
 c. *Gold Rush*  
 d. *Indian Wars*  
 e. *Transcontinental Railroad*  
 f. *Spanish-American War*  
 g. *Yellow Fever*  
 h. *Great Depression*  
 i. *World War II*  
 j. *Atomic Bomb*  
 k. *Space Race*  
 l. *Vietnam War*  
 m. *Watergate*  
 n. *Reagan Revolution*  
 o. *Clinton*  
 p. *Bush*  
 q. *Obama*  
 r. *Trump*  
 s. *COVID-19*  
 t. *Climate Change*  
 u. *Immigration*  
 v. *Healthcare*  
 w. *Education*  
 x. *Environment*  
 y. *Technology*  
 z. *Globalization*  
 aa. *Supremacy*  
 ab. *Justice*  
 ac. *Equality*  
 ad. *Freedom*  
 ae. *Democracy*  
 af. *Capitalism*  
 ag. *Communism*  
 ah. *Socialism*  
 ai. *Environmentalism*  
 aj. *Humanism*  
 ak. *Religion*  
 al. *Philosophy*  
 am. *Science*  
 an. *Art*  
 ao. *Literature*  
 ap. *History*  
 aq. *Geography*  
 ar. *Mathematics*  
 as. *Physics*  
 at. *Chemistry*  
 au. *Biology*  
 av. *Medicine*  
 aw. *Law*  
 ax. *Politics*  
 ay. *Economics*  
 az. *Sociology*  
 ba. *Psychology*  
 bb. *Anthropology*  
 bc. *Linguistics*  
 bd. *Archaeology*  
 be. *Geology*  
 bf. *Astronomy*  
 bg. *Environmental Science*  
 bh. *Public Health*  
 bi. *Education*  
 bj. *Healthcare*  
 bk. *Technology*  
 bl. *Globalization*  
 bm. *Supremacy*  
 bn. *Justice*  
 bo. *Equality*  
 bp. *Freedom*  
 bq. *Democracy*  
 br. *Capitalism*  
 bs. *Communism*  
 bt. *Socialism*  
 bu. *Environmentalism*  
 bv. *Humanism*  
 bw. *Religion*  
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 cb. *History*  
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 cg. *Biology*  
 ch. *Medicine*  
 ci. *Law*  
 cj. *Politics*  
 ck. *Economics*  
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 cn. *Anthropology*  
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 cq. *Geology*  
 cr. *Astronomy*  
 cs. *Environmental Science*  
 ct. *Public Health*  
 cu. *Education*  
 cv. *Healthcare*  
 cw. *Technology*  
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 kf. *Globalization*  
 kg. *Supremacy*  
 kh. *Justice*<

SECT. 4. And be it further enacted, That, if any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company, of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company, of any ship or vessel owned in whole or in part, or navigated for, or in behalf of, any citizen or citizens of the United States, shall land, from any such ship or vessel, and, on any foreign shore, seize any negro or mulatto, not held to service or labour by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall decoy, or forcibly bring or carry, or shall receive such negro or mulatto on board any such ship or vessel, with intent as aforesaid, such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate, and on conviction thereof before the circuit court of the United States for the district wherein he may be brought or found, shall suffer death.

SECT. 5. And be it further enacted, That, if any citizen of the United States, being of the crew or ship's company of any foreign ship or vessel engaged in the slave trade, or any person whatever, being of the crew or ship's company of any ship or vessel owned wholly or in part, or navigated for, or in behalf of, any citizen or citizens of the United States, shall forcibly confine or detain, or aid and abet in forcibly confining or detaining, on board any such ship or vessel, any negro, or mulatto, not held to service by the laws of either of the states or territories of the United States, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall, on board any such ship or vessel, offer or attempt to sell, as a slave, any negro or mulatto, not held to service as aforesaid, or shall, on the high seas, or any where on tide water, transfer, or deliver over, to any other ship or vessel, any such negro or mulatto, not held to service, as aforesaid, with intent to make such negro or mulatto a slave, or shall land or deliver on shore, from on board any such ship or vessel, any such negro or mulatto, with intent to make sale of, or having previously sold, such negro or mulatto, as a slave, such citizen or person shall be adjudged a pirate, and on conviction thereof, before the circuit court of the United States for the district wherein he shall be brought or found, shall suffer death.

**The Constitution of the American Society, for Colonizing the Free People of Colour of the United States.**

ART. 1. This Society shall be called, "The American Society, for  
colonizing the free people of colour of the United States."

ART. 2. The object to which its attention is to be exclusively directed, is to promote and execute a plan for colonizing (with their con-

And the Congress shall deem most expedient. And the Society shall not, to effect this object in co-operation with the General Government, and each of the States as may adopt regulations upon the subject.

ART. 3. Every citizen of the United States, who shall establish the criterion, and be an original contributor of one dollar to the funds of the Society, shall be a Member. On paying out less than thirty dollars, of one subscription, shall be a member for life.

ART. 4. The Officers of this Society shall be, a President, thirteen Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Recorder, and a Board of Managers, composed of the above named officers, and twelve other members of the Society. They shall be annually elected by the members of the Society, at an annual meeting on the last Saturday of December, and continue to discharge their respective duties till elected and appointed.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Managers, and to call meetings of the Society, and of the Board, when he thinks necessary, or when required by any three members of the Board.

ART. 6. The Vice-Presidents, according to seniority, shall discharge their duties in the absence of the President.

ART. 7. The Secretary shall take minutes of the proceedings, prepare and publish notices, and discharge such other duties, as the Board, or the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President, according to the seniority, (when the Board is not sitting) shall direct. And the Recorder shall record the proceedings, and the names of the members, and discharge such other duties as may be required of him.

ART. 8. The treasurer shall receive and take charge of the funds of the Society, under such security as may be prescribed by the Board of Managers: keep the accounts, and exhibit a statement of receipts and expenditures at every annual meeting, and discharge such other duties as may be required of him.

ART. 9. The Board of Managers shall meet on the first Monday in January, the first Monday in April, the first Monday in July, and the first Monday in October, every year, and at such other times as the President may direct. They shall conduct the business of the Society, and take such measures for effecting its objects as they shall think proper, or shall be directed at the meetings of the Society, and make an annual report of their proceedings. They shall also fill up all vacancies occurring during the year, and make such by-laws for their government, as they may deem necessary, provided the same are not repugnant to this constitution.

ART. 10. Every Society which shall be formed in the United States to aid in the object of this association, and which shall co-operate with its funds for the purposes thereof, agreeably to the rules and regulations of this Society, shall be considered auxiliary thereto, and its officers shall be entitled to attend and vote at all meetings of the Society, and of the Board of Managers.